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I THINK I'VE SEEN THIS ONE BEFORE
DEJA VU AT THE MOVIES {pages 29}



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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Amanda Allison Greene, 18, is escorted from Shubenacadie provincial court Thursday.

murderers want bail

Three charged in killing of Dillon Blair Jewett appear together in court for first time Amanda Greene was former girlfriend of murder victim and dated Kyle Gowen, according to Facebook postings



JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

The three people accused of killing Dillon Blair Jewett will ask for bail next month.

Amanda Allison Greene, 18, and brothers Kyle Brian Gowen, 22, and Steven Shaun Gowen, 21, are charged with first-degree murder.

Jewett, 18, was found shot to death on an ATV path near an East Uniacke quarry on Oct. 3.

The trio appeared in a Shubenacadie courtroom yesterday. They were brought in separately and were told from now on they will face court proceedings together. They will be back in court Jan. 13 for a plea and to possibly set a date for the preliminary hearing.

Outside the courtroom defence lawyers told reporters about their intent to seek bail for their clients. Brian Bailey, defence lawyer for the brothers, said he has a bail hearing booked for Dec. 8 in Windsor. Brian Smith, Greene's lawyer, said he will be seeking bail for his client but hasn't set a hearing date yet.

"Because everyone is presumed innocent until they're proven guilty in this country," Smith said, "bail ought not to be seen as a measure of punishment."

Bailey said he noticed there were some items missing from the disclosure — such as text messages — from the Crown. On Tuesday a box full of materials arrived at his office.

"There is some information in there the police claim has some relevance."

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Kyle Gowen leaves court Thursday.

Family, friends on both sides of case pack court

Family and friends — of the victim and the accused — streamed through the metal detector at Shubenacadie provincial court yesterday.

They packed the courtroom as they waited for Amanda Greene, and brothers Kyle and Steven Gowen to appear.

The accused were brought in separately and sat in a bench perpendicular to the onlookers. They were surrounded by about six security personnel.

Dillon Jewett's family held on to each other, white-knuckled, during the quick court proceedings yesterday. Jewett's mother declined to speak with reporters afterward.

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Iggy likes projects but iffy on funding

Top Grit fields questions from supporters, public at local tour stop



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Michael Ignatieff expressed cautious support for both the proposed trade and convention centre for downtown Halifax and the Nova Scotia-Newfoundland energy deal in Halifax on Thursday.

But the Liberal leader stopped short of opining as to whether either project should receive federal funding.

"It depends what funding means," he said, after fielding questions from a near-capacity crowd of supporters and members of the public at the Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall.

"We have to see the business case, we have to see the details"

The province is asking the federal government to contribute $375 million for a $1.2-billion undersea transmission cable between Cape Breton and Newfoundland. Premier Darrell Dexter has said the project will go on with or without Ottawa's funding.

The convention centre project, however, requires a $46-million contribution from the federal government before construction begins.

When asked what details he needed to see before forming an opinion, Ignatieff said, "I'm not in government. I'm the leader of the Opposition unless I'm much mistaken," he said.

"I haven't seen all the detail, but we think that this kind of project — retire some coal-fire stations, retire some carbon-intensive energy generation — is good for the country.

"And then the question is, what is the exact, precise federal role? What I'm saying is ... my door would be open as prime minister to look at this carefully and see how we can make this happen."

It was Ignatieff's 15th edition of his Open Mike tour, a cross-country series of town hall sessions touted Thursday night as democracy in action.

Entourage

Ignatieff was joined by several notable Liberal politicians on Thursday. They included:

- Kings-Hants MP Scott Brison
- Dartmouth-Cole Harbour MP Michael Savage
- Halifax West MP Geoff Regan
- Cape Breton Victoria MP Mark Eyeking
- Peter Lund, the regional councillor for Hammonds Plains-St. Margaret's, was also in attendance, as was Halifax federal Liberal candidate Stan Kutcher

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Federal Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff speaks at a town hall meeting at the Neptune Theatre on Thursday.

1 news

Barrio Dream Homes Gang fuels a rash of violence in Coachella Valley. Scan code for the story.

On the web:

Bonhomme Carnaval slyly lobbies Stephen Harper for arena cash during an Ottawa visit. More at metronews.ca/canada

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NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Williams walks on his terms

As political surprises go, news that Premier Danny Williams is quitting was a game-changing blockbuster that shook Newfoundland and Labrador far beyond the corridors of power.

The rhetorical pugilist whose popularity ratings are the envy of other leaders across Canada said he's leaving politics next Friday to pursue undisclosed business interests.

Williams fought tears as he stood before a packed news conference Thursday. He said his health is good and it's time to get off what he called a sometimes bruising 10-year ride on the roller-coaster of public life.

"It has indeed been a great honour to serve as premier of Canada's youngest and coolest province."
DANNY WILLIAMS

"I have indeed been so, so lucky and it is very, very hard to say goodbye," he said as his family, cabinet members and staff looked on.

Williams said the $6.2-billion deal unveiled just last week to develop the proposed Lower Churchill hydroelectric project in Labrador convinced him to go.

"Orson Welles once said that if you want a happy ending, you need to know when to end your story. So I've called you here today to announce the end of my story as the ninth premier of Newfoundland and Labrador."

Williams, 61, later said that he's not getting any younger. He said he wanted to leave enough time for his Progressive Conservative party to elect another leader, likely this spring, before a fixed-date election next October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deal a go, Williams or no, says Dexter

Dexter and Williams jointly announced Lower Churchill deal just last week



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

The imminent departure of Danny Williams will not affect the recently inked Lower Churchill Falls deal, according to Premier Darrell Dexter.

Dexter thanked Williams for his leadership on the deal between Nova Scotia Power and Nalcor that will see an energy corridor created between Muskrat Falls in Labrador and Nova Scotia.

"It's always wonderful, of course, to have a great champion of a project like Danny Williams," Dexter said, minutes after Williams announced he'll step down as Newfoundland and Labrador's ninth premier on Dec. 3.

PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams.

"(But) he went out of his way to make sure everything about this project was in place, and I'm sure will continue ... to fight for the interests of Newfoundland and Labrador."

Dexter said Kathy Dunderdale, Newfoundland's deputy premier who will be taking over as premier on Dec. 4, is "every bit as committed" to the Muskrat Falls project as Williams is.

Williams' announcement came one day after Dexter stressed the need for regional co-operation — including considering regional venture capital projects and procurement.

Dexter said he does not expect the change in leadership to stop what he sees as gathering momentum in the region.

"I think there is a momentum around Atlantic co-operation that has been started over the last couple of years that we can take advantage of," said Dexter.

Skepticism

Premier Dexter's optimism is not shared by one of his closest economic advisers. Donald Savoie told The Canadian Press yesterday that there is still much to be done.

"It's one thing to announce it and sign an agreement; it's quite another thing to deliver the goods," he said.



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PROVINCE HOUSE

Priority team for suburbs

Municipal Relations Minister Ramona Jennex announced the formation of a "Suburban Priorities Team" for HRM on Thursday.

The SPT is comprised of five members of the NDP backbench from suburban areas — Matt Whynott, Becky Kent, Dave Wilson, Sid Prest, and Michelle Raymond. As the name implies, the team's mandate is to address priorities brought forward by suburbanites.

Jennex said the SPT will not require any additional resources.

"There's no cost to this," Jennex told reporters. "We're just providing the space for them to meet."

But Liberal MLA Andrew Younger doesn't buy that the SPT has will have no associated costs.

"There's always a cost, there's nothing that government does that doesn't have a cost," he said. "We shouldn't believe that something can be done for free."

ALEX BOUTILIER

Teen facing multitude of charges

A 15-year-old youth faces 41 charges in connection with a series of vehicle thefts in Middle Sackville.

Halifax RCMP arrested the male on Wednesday after police searched a home.

Most of the thefts occurred on Rosemary Drive, Wilson Lake Drive and Westwind Ridge, according to police.

Charges facing the teen include theft under $5000, possession of stolen property, careless use of a firearm, unauthorized possession of a firearm and trespass by night.

He will appear in youth court at a later date.

METRO

Positive feedback from solar proposal

New initiative could launch HRM above rest of the country ◐ Community sessions over the next two weeks

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Andrew Koyaanisqatsi installs solar panels for a domestic hot water system in this file photo.

Richard MacLellan is fielding hundreds of calls from residents eager to help make Halifax the country's first "solar city."

MacLellan, with the Sustainable Environment Management Office, presented a project to Halifax regional council earlier this month that would install solar panels to 500 houses to heat hot water. Since approving the $5-million idea in principle, MacLellan said his inbox has been full of Haligonians hoping to install the two panels on their properties.

"There's been a very high level of interest," said MacLellan.

On Thursday, the Nova Scotia government made amendments to the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter that will allow homeowners to finance the solar heating system through their tax bills, the first of its kind in Canada.

MacLellan said the program will put some extra change in the pockets of participants.

"Their savings will enhance particularly with the increased cost of energy," he said, adding residents will see the biggest impact over the next five to 10 years.

If interest is sufficient and council approves the project, an online prescreening registration will begin Dec. 15.

ALY THOMSON

Amendment

- The Province introduced an amendment to the motor vehicle act and an act regarding clotheslines yesterday. An act to prevent the prohibition of clotheslines will allow homeowners to use them regardless of restrictive covenants.
- An amendment to the motor vehicle act ensures cars have the right-of-way when re-entering traffic on streets and highways.



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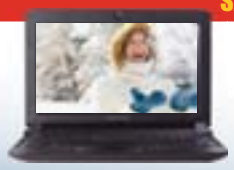


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Ghiz calls for ferry subsidy

P.E.I. asks for at least a 15-year agreement to keep service running

NEW GLASGOW NEWS



▶ One of the ferries that runs between P.E.I. and Nova Scotia.

Prince Edward Island Premier Robert Ghiz has a dream that one day people will be able to travel on and off his province without having to pay a tollbooth.

During a passionate plea this week for a long-term funding agreement for Northumberland Ferries Ltd., which connects P.E.I. to Nova Scotia, the Island premier said his province is not being treated fairly.

He said if a resident wants to drive between Saskatchewan and Alberta, for example, he or she doesn't have to pay. But, Ghiz said, if Canadians want to travel to the Birthplace of Confederation, they have to shell out anywhere from $42.50 to travel across the Confederation Bridge to $69 to use ferry service.

"Imagine 150 years later since the meeting of Confederation and these Canadians are paying to travel to the birthplace of their country. Is that fair? I think not." P.E.I. PREMIER ROBERT GHIZ

"We should be getting more than what we're getting if we're treated like an equal partner in Confederation," Ghiz said.

"We're asking to subsidize something so we can pay money to travel to another province. Do the people of Ontario ask for that? No. They can just drive to another province."

The non-binding motion that passed unanimously is calling on the P.E.I. government to continue to pursue a long-term funding agreement with the federal government to keep the ferry service alive.

Ghiz said free travel to and from P.E.I. would not only benefit Islanders but the rest of Canada because more than one million people travel to the Island every year.

CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Senior jail official suspended

Many years

Ross Landry says the official has worked at the jail, located in Sydney, for several years.

Nova Scotia's Justice Department says it has suspended a senior jail official at the Cape Breton Correctional Facility.

Justice Minister Ross Landry declined to discuss the details of the case, saying it is an internal administrative matter.

But Landry says the official has been suspended and is on administrative leave with pay.

Landry won't identify the official nor discuss whether there's been a complaint in the case.

He says an administrative review was underway.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges laid after armed standoff

A 62-year-old man is facing several charges stemming from an armed standoff in Spryfield on Wednesday.

It started just before 2 p.m. when police were called to a house on Old Sambro Road and discovered a man, who had access to a firearm, was inside the house.

The Halifax man walked out of the house just after 6 p.m. and was arrested without incident.

Police got a warrant, searched the house, and found a long-barrelled gun and marijuana plants.

The man is facing charges of uttering threats, unsafe storage of a firearm, breach of probation, and cultivating marijuana.

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Mamma Mia indeed

Hit musical takes over Metro Centre ◆ Venue will be 'biggest place we've played,' says star

Mamma Mia! fever is hitting Halifax this weekend.

The hit musical that is touring throughout North America is performing five times at the Halifax Metro Centre over three days, beginning Friday at 8 p.m.

"It's at a rock concert level," Mary Callanan, who plays the character of Rosie in the popular musical, told Metro in a recent interview about the show.

"All the little girls know all the words, and there are always a few reluctant husbands who are dancing by the end (too)."

The musical that incorporates popular music based on ABBA songs tells the story of Sophie Sheridan who is engaged to be married, and is searching for her father, so he can walk her down the aisle at her wedding.

"There's something for everybody on that stage" Callanan promises. "You kind of laugh and maybe shed a tear or two. It's the story of strong women, of mothers and daughters, of making choices and sticking with them, and life isn't always picture perfect. People see themselves in the characters."

Besides Friday, Mamma Mia! will take to the Metro Centre stage on Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 1 and 7 p.m.

AMY BOND/WITH FILES FROM PHILIP CROUCHER

CAROL ROSEGG/FOR METRO



▶ A scene from the touring musical Mamma Mia!

Tix available

▶ Tickets are still available for all five shows through ticketatlantic.com. Ticket prices range from $51.75 to $79.50, plus service charges.

Tree lighting goes Saturday, and it's energy efficient

This year's oversized Christmas tree propped in Grand Parade Square will be glimmering with energy efficient LED lights.

Haligonians can come see it sparkle at the tree-lighting ceremony on Saturday from 6 to 7 p.m.

The Halifax Boys Honour Choir will kick off the event, followed by a live performance by the Backyardigans and a visit from Santa.

The Halifax Regional Municipality is also asking event-goers to bring a non-perishable food item.

In case you were wondering, the forecast for Saturday's tree lighting is calling for no rain and temperatures around the freezing mark.

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News in brief


▶ Wind turbine

Windmills start turning

CLEAN ENERGY. Nova Scotia Power's wind farm in Digby Neck is up and running with half of its 20 planned turbines generating electricity.
It is expected that the facility will be fully operational by the end of the year.

The utility says the wind farm will produce 30 megawatts of power, enough electricity to power about 10,000 homes.

Nova Scotia Power says project has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 60,000 tonnes annually.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cars targeted in Dartmouth

VANDALISM. Tire slashers have been hitting Dartmouth over the past month.

Halifax Regional Police say there have been 31 reports of tires being slashed in Dartmouth since Nov. 8. The six most recent incidents occurred overnight on Monday and Tuesday in the Portland Estates area.
METRO

Cash missing, woman charged

PUBLIC FUNDS. A 31-year-old Prince Edward Island woman faces several charges after more than $20,000 disappeared from town coffers in Montague.

RCMP were called in last May after it was discovered that fake cheques and withdrawal slips had been drafted and cashed.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

In their own beds?

Legislation would outlaw use of N.S.'s estimated 150 tanning salons by minors ● Industry to participate in developing regulations: Health minister

Used properly, tanning beds are not the health hazards that proposed provincial legislation makes them out to be, one former longtime bed owner claims.

"I think what it is — and I've had experience with this myself — the instructions given are not listened to by younger people and they tend to get greedy," said Laura Ash, owner of Hair Affair in Stewiacke, one of the first in the area to install tanning beds in her hair salon about 25 years ago.

"The result of that is they burn, which is not a good thing for anybody."

Although Ash removed her beds about a year ago because of rising insurance costs and a saturated market, she never had any health concerns related to their use, provided it was done in moderation and according to instructions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE


▶ Casey Eubanks lies in a tanning bed.

Health Promotion and Protection Minister Maureen MacDonald introduced legislation this week that would ban those under age 19 from using tanning beds at businesses throughout Nova Scotia.

Citing recommendations from Doctors Nova Scotia and other health groups about the dangers of tanning beds, MacDonald also said the World Health Organization has classified the ultraviolet light from tanning beds as a carcinogen.

"I don't think it will affect us very much. It's an older clientele with tanning beds. We're vain."
JUDY LYNDS, TANNING-BED OPERATOR

"If used properly ... I don't think there is an issue," Ash said. "It's another waste of money, if you ask me. Just like the (long) gun legislation. But that's my personal opinion."

Judy Lynds, manager of East End Mini Mart in Truro, said she agrees with the proposed legislation, slated to go into effect next year.
TRURO DAILY NEWS

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Youth sex stats higher in C.B.

Survey shows about 30 per cent of Nova Scotia Grade 9 students are sexually active

While she knows young people are having sex at younger ages, the executive director of the Cape Breton Centre for Sexual Health says she's surprised the numbers are higher in this region than in some other parts of the province.

Cathie Penny was responding to information presented at a recent conference on healthy sexuality she attended in Yarmouth.

"I was surprised that Cape Breton had the (highest) number, I wasn't surprised that that was an issue, that kids under 15 are now having sex more often," she said, noting she works in the school system.

As part of a survey of sexual behaviour of students in the Yarmouth area, Dalhousie University professor Don Langille compared findings from that area with north-central Nova Scotia and the area covered by the Cape Breton District Health Authority.

He found that girls from Cape Breton were more sexually active than those of the other communities — 52.9 per cent of 15-to-16-year-old girls were sexually active, compared in north-central Nova Scotia.

And students in Cape Breton were more likely to have sex earlier. Girls in Cape Breton in the 15-16 age group were more likely to use effective contraception.

Sexual education is now concentrated at the junior high level, Penny noted, and that information is available through youth health centres at the high schools that have them.

Having those conversations at home as well is equally if not more important, she said.

Many young people are experimenting with oral sex rather than intercourse, Penny added.

CAPE BRETON POST

Sex sells

- Girls are being sexualized at earlier and earlier ages, said Cathie Penny, with pre-teen girls focusing increasing attention on their hair and makeup. Items like sparkly bras and panties are now being marketed to children about age five.
- "That's scary, when you're five years old, you shouldn't be thinking about bras and panties," Penny said.



Man charged in snow removal scam

A New Brunswick man faces charges in connection with a snow removal scam in the Moncton area over the past few weeks.

Edward Faulkner of Dieppe pleaded not guilty to three counts of fraud when he appeared in provincial court on Thursday.

The 57-year-old remains in custody and police say further charges are possible.

The Mounties warned earlier this week that some residents were being told they had to sign a contract to have their driveways cleared for the season and that the payment had to be made upfront and only cash would be accepted.

Police say the service is then never delivered.

They say fraudulent ads were posted online under a number of names including, "Atlantic Driveways" and "Brunswick Snow Removal."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chilling words recounted at murder trial

After she had heard a "ting, ting, ting" sound coming from outside on the evening of July 11, 2009, Jermaine Middleton entered the cottage at 30 Braemar Rd. in Yarmouth County, grabbed Alicia Anderson's face and said to her, "It's done. There is nothing you can do. Are you with me or against me?"

This was part of the evidence presented to the jury on Thursday during Anderson's second day on the witness stand at the first-degree Supreme Court murder trial of Ian Matthew Huskins.

Huskins stands accused of killing Neil Joseph Blades Jr. last summer. It has been indicated in court that a baseball bat was used in the murder, although there has been no medical evidence presented yet on the exact cause of Blades' death.

Middleton's words to Anderson were included in a statement that she had made to the police. After initial opposition from the Crown, Huskins' lawyer Clifford Hood asked Anderson if this was indeed what Middleton had said to her.

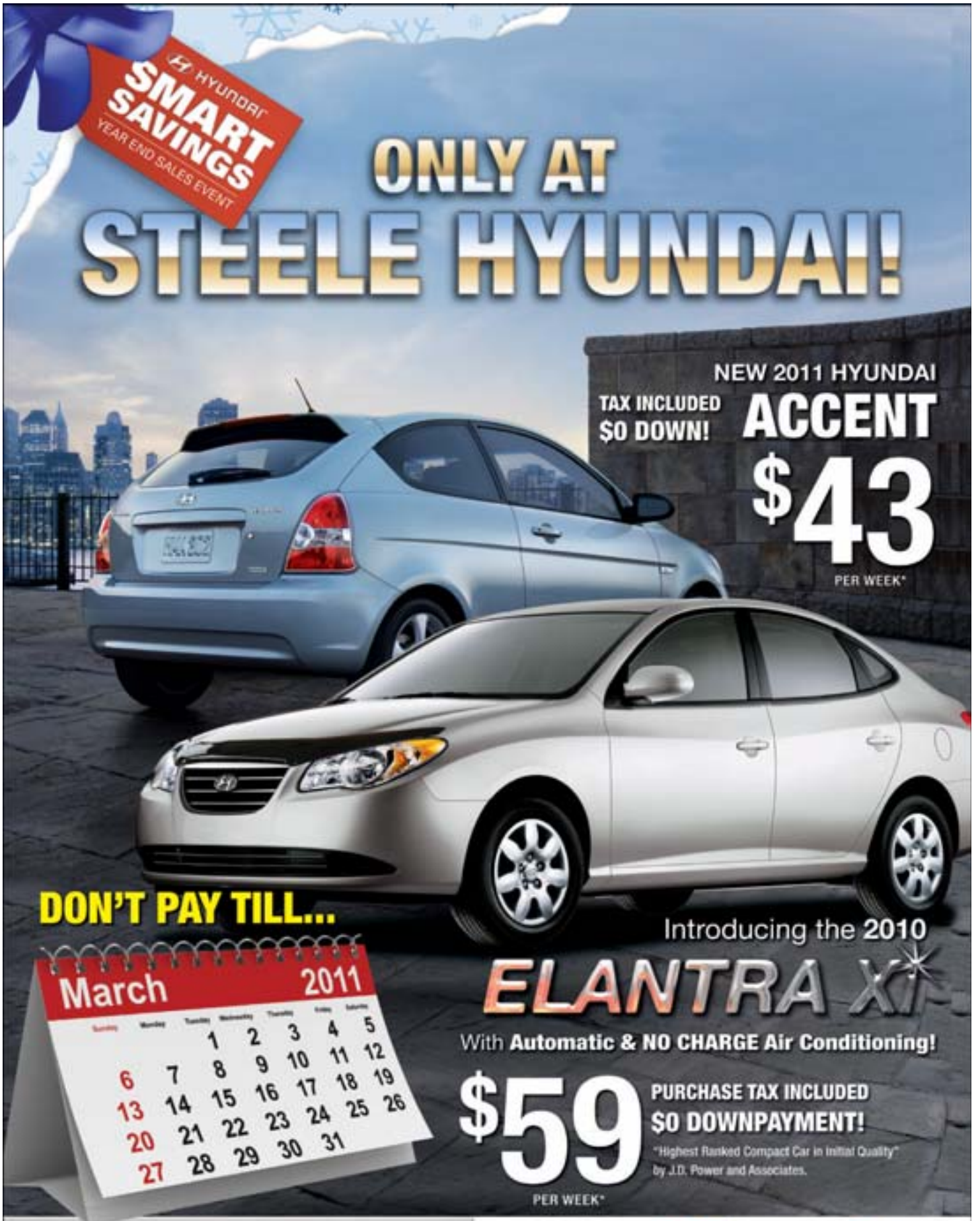
She indicated it was.

YARMOUTH VANGUARD

Testifying

Middleton is the Crown's next witness scheduled to testify, although he will only take the witness stand on Monday.

The trial sits in recess until then.



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Hitmakers in harmony

Top music stars press top Tories for a copying levy on MP3 players

Some of the biggest names in the Canadian television, film and music industries are on an MP3 mission.

They're demanding a levy on MP3 players — like the levy applied to blank CDs and cassettes.

The levy, charged as compensation for material that is privately copied, is then doled out in the form of royalties.

On Thursday, an A-to-Z of music stars — including Anne Murray, Nickelback's Chad Kroeger and members of the Tragically Hip — wrote to Heritage Minister James Moore and Industry Minister Tony Clement pressing the issue.

"MP3 players are this generation's version of blank media," the artists wrote. "A copy is a copy and the principle of fair compensation for rights holders should apply whether the copy is made onto blank media or MP3 players.

"We know that you do not want to see a Canada that is devoid of musicians and songwriters, but without fair and balanced treatment, that may be the tragic consequence."

Other artists who attached their names to the letter include Stompin' Tom Connors, Tom Cochrane and Metric.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The flipside

- Moore says placing a levy on copied music is complicated. Canadians aren't just buying MP3s these days, but are also streaming music onto their phones and players.
- Whether a levy would also apply to videos is another thorny issue.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ Like many top music stars, members of the Tragically Hip — Gord Downie is the frontman — want to kickstart a levy on MP3 players.

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WikiLeaks to reveal further secret U.S. files

Ottawa not privy to contents of leaked documents

The U.S. government has notified Ottawa that the WikiLeaks website is preparing to release sensitive U.S. diplomatic files that could damage American relations with allies around the world.

U.S. officials say the documents may contain accounts of compromising conversations with political dissidents as well as friendly politicians.

A State Department spokesman said Wednesday the release of confidential communications about foreign governments probably will erode trust in the United States as a diplomatic partner.

Great reformers?

WikiLeaks bills itself as a website devoted to reforming governments worldwide by exposing their secrets.

- U.S. diplomatic outposts around the world have begun notifying other governments that WikiLeaks may release these documents in the next few days.
- Many of the cables are believed to date from the start of U.S. President Barack Obama's administration.

"These revelations are harmful to the United States and our interests," State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said.

One concern is that the documents may reveal the kinds of pressure the U.S. administration has put on various countries to accept the transfer of Guantanamo Bay detainees.

Canada has long resisted repatriating Toronto-born Omar Khadr, the only western detainee remaining at Guantanamo Bay, despite pressure from both American and Canada's federal courts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Space. Exploration



▶ U.S astronaut Cady Coleman, left, Russian cosmonaut Dmitry Kondratiev, centre, and Italian astronaut Paolo Nespoli.

MISHA JAPARIDZE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Global space team

Members of the expedition to the International Space Station held their preflight practical examination yesterday at the Russian Space Training Center.

Stripper photos provoke debate

There will be no more free shows on the roof of a Toronto strip club after pictures of the scantily clad dancers surfaced online.

Dancers at the Zanzibar Tavern regularly took breaks on the club's roof while still in their work outfits.

A Ryerson University librarian, Brian Cameron, took photos of the women from his office and published them on Torontoist, before they were taken down from the site on Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ethics

Club owner Allen Cooper says dancers feel their privacy has been violated.

- The images of the scantily clad dancers have sparked heated debate online and in the media over privacy.

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LONG-TERM SCIENCE

Evolution: Battle for survival

The extinction of dinosaurs 65 million years ago could have been a classic case of one door closing and another opening, with mammals being the beneficiaries.

A study published in the prestigious journal Science says researchers have demonstrated that after dinosaurs died out, mammals were able to grow in a way they had never been able to grow before.

Dr. Jessica Theodor, an associate professor in biological sciences at the University of Calgary, is a co-author of the study.

"We looked at how maximum body mass changed from the extinction of the dinosaurs to today," she said in an interview with The Canadian Press.

When mammals shared the land with dinosaurs, the largest mammal weighed about 10 kilograms, says Theodor. Over the next 25 million years, she says, the largest mammals grew to a maximum of 17 tonnes.

"We tend to think of evolutionary rates within species or within closely related species over shorter periods of time, but for an entire massive group like mammals to increase a thousandfold in 25 million years — that's actually pretty rapid." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hydro theft leads to pot bust

Police in London, Ont., say they seized nearly 1,000 pot plants when they raided a marijuana grow-op.

Officers seized growing equipment at a residence on Highview Crescent where it is alleged that more than $6,000 worth of hydro was stolen when the meter was bypassed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cookie Monster mischief

The RCMP have posted an apology on its Twitter account after a link for a YouTube video featuring the Cookie Monster was posted on its British Columbia page.

The video features the popular Sesame Street character auditioning for a part on Saturday Night Live.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHAD RACHMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Christopher Hitchens

Two sides talk faith

Atheist Christopher Hitchens will debate Catholic convert Tony Blair in Toronto Thousands of people around the world will watch online

A former British prime minister will pit his faith against the atheism of a prominent journalist as both try to sway the passions of a Toronto crowd on whether religion is a force for good in the world.

Friday night's debate between Tony Blair, a Catholic convert, and Christopher Hitchens, who has refused to "repent" and embrace religion despite being stricken with late-stage esophageal cancer, is sold out.

Votes will be taken at the start and end of the debate to determine who had the more convincing argument.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Nigeria launches gender protest

11 Number of months Olympic runner Caster Semenya was unable to compete until she was declared a female.

The Nigerian Football Federation has made an official complaint to the African governing body accusing Equatorial Guinea of fielding two men on its women's team.

"We have lodged our protest. We are waiting for the response," NFF spokesman Robinson Okosun told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Equatorial Guinea's federation has denied the allegations against captain Genoveva Anonma and striker Salimata Simpore, saying the claims stem from an "inferiority complex" among rival teams because of the recent success of the tiny west African nation.

Anonma, who plays for German club USV Jena, reportedly told the BBC that she has already been gender tested, which she found "offensive."

Equatorial Guinea qualified for next year's World Cup in Germany after it finished second at the recent African Women's Championship in South Africa, losing 4-2 to Nigeria in the final. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

General accused of affair steps down

A general facing court martial over an alleged sexual affair while commanding Canadian forces in Afghanistan is quitting the military.

Brig-Gen Daniel Menard will be leaving the army ranks on Dec. 17. But he still must face a court martial over an alleged sexual affair with a subordinate while in the theatre of war.

Menard's subordinate, Master Cpl. Bianka Langlois, was convicted in a summary trial Sept. 28 of one count of conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline. She was reprimanded and fined $700.

Court documents indicate a sexual affair took place between Nov. 15, 2009, and April 27, 2010.

The director of military prosecutions said this week Menard will be tried on two counts of conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline and four counts of obstructing justice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bangkok. AIDS



▶ Abhisit Vejjajiva

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thailand's PM has safer sex on his mind

Thailand's Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva wears a hat made of condoms as he takes part in an anti-HIV-AIDS campaign in Bangkok, ahead of World AIDS Day, which falls on Dec. 1.

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South Korea dumps defence chief after attack

Seoul prepares for more provocation from North Korea Even ruling party demanded dismissal

DONG-A ILBO/GETTY IMAGES



Lee Myung-Bak

South Korea's president Lee Myung-Bak ordered more troops to a front-line island and dumped his defence minister Thursday as the country grappled with lapses in its response to a deadly North Korean artillery strike.

In scenes reminiscent of the Korean War 60 years ago, dazed residents of Yeonpyeong island foraged through blackened rubble for pieces of their lives and lugged their possessions down eerily deserted streets strewn with bent metal after Tuesday's hail of artillery. The barrage darkened skies, set off fierce blazes, killed four South Koreans and raised fears of an escalation that could lead to full-scale war.

"It was a sea of fire," resident Lee In-ku said, recalling the flames that rolled through the streets of this island that is home to military bases as well as a fishing community famous for its catches of crab. The spit of land, just 11 kilometres from North Korea, had only six pieces of artillery.

Despite warnings from North Korea that any new provocation would be met with more attacks, Washington and Seoul pushed ahead with plans for military drills starting Sunday involving a nuclear-powered U.S. aircraft carrier in waters south of this week's skirmish.

The exercises will likely anger the North but the South can little afford to abandon such preparation now. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawyer: Polygamy ban makes Bountiful sect 'pariahs'

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Winston Blackmore, religious leader of B.C. commune

A lawyer for residents of the polygamous commune of Bountiful, B.C., says the law against multiple marriage has turned them into "pariahs" for their "fundamentalist Morman" religious beliefs.

Lawyer Robert Wickett said criminalizing polygamy has kept Bountiful separated from mainstream society and violates their right to religious freedom. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘Miracle’ rescue saves boys lost at sea 50 days

They ate fish to survive As hope faded back home, the teenagers were eulogized in a memorial service

They were given up for dead — and even eulogized in a memorial service.

But now three teens missing in the South Pacific for 50 days have been found alive by a New Zealand fishing boat.

The boys — two 15-year-olds and a 14-year-old — disappeared while attempting to row an aluminum dinghy between two islands in the New Zealand territory of Tokelau in early October.

All hope was lost after an extensive search involving New Zealand’s air force.

Their craft had drifted 1,300 kilometres to a desolate part of the Pacific northeast of Fiji, when the crew of a tuna boat saw them frantically waving for help on Wednesday afternoon.

Adrift 1,300 km.

- The three teens were dehydrated, sunburned and very thin, rescuers said.
- They survived by drinking rainwater, catching fish and eating a seagull that landed on their boat.
- They come from the atoll of Atafu, one of three that make up the Tokelau island group, home to 1,500 people.

“We saw a small vessel … and we knew it was a little weird,” said Tai Fredricsen, first mate of the San Nikuna.

The fishing boat pulled up alongside the smaller vessel and asked the teens if they needed any help. They readily replied that they did.

“All they could say was ‘thank you very much for stopping,’” said Fredricsen.

“In a physical sense, they look very physically depleted, but mentally … very high.”

The boys, Samuel Pelesa and Filo Filo, both 15, and Edward Nasau, 14, were to be taken to a hospital in Suva, Fiji’s capital, on Friday.

The rescue came not a moment too soon: Fredricsen said they had begun to drink sea water because it hadn’t rained in the past few nights.

“It’s a miracle, it’s a miracle,” said Tanu Filo, the father of one of the boys.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rio. Gangs on the run



▶ Who cares about armed men passing by? This woman grabbed the opportunity for a quick nap during the giant police dragnet in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday.

SILVIA IZQUIERDO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

But will thugs be caught napping?

Elite police units in navy tanks rumbled through a heavily fortified Rio de Janeiro slum Thursday in a bid to catch drug gang leaders they blame for five days of violence. Meanwhile, scores of armed youths fled the shantytown for a nearby gang stronghold. At least 23 people have died since Monday.

A total of four facilities are under quarantine in Manitoba — the turkey farm, a nearby hatchery and two farms that had contact with the turkey operation.

New bird flu low risk

Food inspection officials say an outbreak of H5N2 avian flu on a commercial turkey farm in Rockwood, Man., is a low risk to people. The strain is far different from H5N1, which has killed dozens of people in Europe and Asia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winners and losers in a tale of two wars

The Soviet Union couldn’t win in Afghanistan, and now the United States is about to have something in common with that futile campaign: nine years, 50 days.

As of Friday, the U.S.-led coalition has been fighting in the country for as long as the Soviets did.

The two invasions had different goals — and dramatically different body counts — but whether they have significantly different outcomes remains to be seen.

What started out as a quick war Oct. 7, 2001, by the U.S. and its allies to wipe out al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and the Taliban has instead turned into a long and slogging campaign.

Now about 100,000 NATO troops are fighting a burgeoning insurgency while trying to cultivate a nascent democracy.

The Soviets sought to prop up a communist regime facing a popular uprising, but left largely defeated Feb. 15, 1989.

More than a million civilians died as Soviet forces waged a massive war against anti-communist mujahedeen forces.

NATO forces have killed fewer than 10,000 civilians, said Michael O’Hanlon, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ An Afghan anti-Taliban fighter pops up from his tank to spot a U.S. warplane on a bombing mission.

Targets of battle

Two different superpowers, two different wars, two different aims:

- **The United States** says the core objective is to ensure Afghanistan is never again a sanctuary for al-Qaida or other extremists.
- **The Soviet Union’s** goal was to transform Afghanistan into a modern socialist state.

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Abbott targets HST as key issue for B.C.

- HST referendum no later than June 24: Abbott
- Margaret MacDiarmid will assume education post

Former education minister George Abbott believes he's the best one to steer the B.C. Liberal government back toward public approval and he's aiming part of his campaign on a speedier resolution to the HST debate.

The four-term politician resigned his seat as education minister Thursday to become the second candidate in the race for Liberal leader and B.C. premier.

"The B.C. Liberal government is at this point at a pretty low point in the ditch of public opinion," he said.

"I hope that the next bump we feel is the vehicle coming out of the ditch and onto the road as we move forward."


▶ George Abbott

Abbott said he'll immediately move up the date of a referendum over the much maligned harmonized sales tax so the issue can be dealt with once and for all.

"If the HST is rejected by a simple majority, you'll see a new budget in the fall, laying out the plan to extinguish the HST," Abbott told a packed room of supporters in a Vancouver hotel for his announcement.

Abbott was flanked at his announcement by a half dozen members of the Liberal caucus: including former cabinet minister Gordon Hogg, caucus whip John van Dongen, Environment Minister Murray Coell and MLAs Richard Lee, John Rustad and Don McRae. "George is someone who's always been able to pull his community together and I think that he can bring rural and urban British Columbia together like no one else can," Murray Coell said after the announcement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kiev. Demonstrations


SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
▶ Protesters shout slogans protesting a draft tax law in Kiev, Ukraine, yesterday.

Tax protesters take to the street

About 6,000 people gathered in Ukraine's capital Thursday on the fourth day of demonstrations against tax law changes, part of a nationwide wave of protests that is the biggest since the Orange Revolution of 2004. Flags give the names of towns, regions and organizations protesters are from.

White flag prospect for La Familia cartel

Banners hung on pedestrian bridges in several western Mexican cities yesterday expressed anger that the government has ignored a drug cartel's offer to disband if authorities improve security in the gang's home state.

The "narco-banners" appeared in at least five towns and cities in the Pacific coast state of Michoacan, including the colonial capital of Morelia, the state attorney general's office said in a statement.

They carried the same message: "La Familia Michoacana is saddened about the lack of interest from government institutions in our proposal "

The banners refer to a letter, dropped on streets of several Michoacan mountain towns and emailed to journalists earlier this month, that said La Familia would disband if the government negotiates with the cartel on protecting Michoacan citizens.

Such banners have become a common way for Mexico's drug cartels to send public messages, though it is nearly always impossible to verify who puts them up.

ALFREDO ESTRELLA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A member of La Familia is presented by police last week.

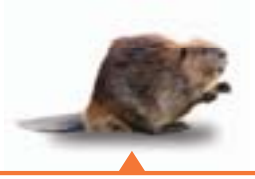
Sergio Moreno Godinez, who authorities said was the main La Familia trafficker in the port city of Lazaro Cardenas, said under police interrogation last week that the letter was real, the cartel was in decline, and its leader, Servando Gomez, has suggested it give up.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ruthless

La Familia emerged about four years ago and quickly earned a reputation as one of the most brutal of the Mexican cartels.

- It is known for decapitating rivals and staging bold attacks on government security forces.
- The attacks include an ambush that killed 12 federal police officers in June.



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Nearly free trips an error or an early X-mas gift?

Web surfers in disbelief over Expedia.ca flight deal find tickets to be true ◗ Cases of flyers being paid to travel reported ◗ Expedia.ca remains tight-lipped

Thanks to the online travel company Expedia.ca, Colin Campbell will be doing his last-minute shopping in New York City this year and fly back into Toronto just in time for Christmas Eve.

It wasn't his plan all along, but when Expedia.ca offered him a return flight and a few days in a hotel for just $40 — all taxes included — how could he possibly refuse?

Expedia won't say whether the seemingly too-good-to-be-true offer that Campbell and other web surfers took advantage of last weekend — which in some cases actually paid travellers to fly — was the result of a pricing error. The promotion offered a $300 discount off a flight and hotel package to Cancun, Las Vegas, New York or Riviera Maya. It didn't take long for Canadian web surfers to find packages for just over $300, making the trip almost free after the discount.

"I wasn't sure if it was a mistake or not but I did get an email from Expedia saying everything was booked. But I still wasn't sure," Campbell said.

"So I actually gave them a call and confirmed with a manager that it was in fact correct and it wouldn't be cancelled."

While there was a limit of only one $300 discount per booking, there was no limit on how many separate discounted bookings could be made per person.

And while the terms of the discount stated it was for "Canadian bookings only," users the world over were still able to place orders. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flying frenzy

- On the Canadian website Redflagdeals.com a discussion about the deal has generated about 1,000 posts and has been viewed more than 90,000 times.
- The deal made an even bigger splash at Flyertalk.com, a forum dedicated to frequent flyers, where it spawned about 3,000 posts with more than 261,000 views.
- A few Flyertalk dealhunters boasted that they took advantage of the promotion for more than 10 bookings.

Anti-inflation. Beijing



▶ People eat noodles outside a wholesale clothing market in Beijing on Thursday.

ALEXANDER F. YUAN /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Use your noodle

China's government is widening its anti-inflation campaign, ordering a crackdown on speculators it accuses of illegally pushing up commodity prices. The order comes as Beijing enforces measures announced last week to cool food prices that soared more than 10 per cent in October.

Credit firms: Hands off our plastic

The heads of Canada's largest credit card companies are cautioning against government meddling in their business, saying it could hurt consumers.

The presidents of Visa and MasterCard told a Senate committee that the recently enacted voluntary code of conduct on the industry is working just fine, and a mandatory system could have unintended consequences.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

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North American airlines soared in October

North American airlines enjoyed the strongest growth in passenger demand of the year in October as the global industry continued to recover from the 2008 financial and economic crisis.

Passenger demand was up an average of 12.4 per cent among North American carriers last month compared with October 2009, the International Air Transport Association said Thursday.

Capacity increased 11.9 per cent and North American airlines flew 82.5 per cent full, the highest load factor in the world.

The region's airlines are carrying two per cent more traffic than before the pre-recession levels of early 2008.

Overall, global passenger traffic grew by 10.1 per cent in October.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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METRO FILE



▶ George Pothitos outside Neptune Theatre in downtown Halifax.

5 MINUTES WITH: GEORGE POTHITOS

When it comes to theatre, George Pothitos has done it all. During the 1980s into the mid 90s, the Neptune Theatre artistic director worked as an actor in an array of Canadian cities before developing a pallet for stage and artistic directing. In 2000, he landed a gig as artistic director of the Sudbury Theatre Centre in Ontario. After nine years in northern central Canada, Pothitos set course for the East Coast and Neptune Theatre.

What is the one play you haven't done that you would like to do?

"I think it might be Hamlet. I think because it's Shakespeare, of course, and it's a terrific use of language. But I think also it lends itself to modern actors and the psychology that goes behind it. There's a certain modern take that you can certainly intertwine with a classical language and it works really well."

"I love that civility that comes with living here."

What has been your favourite moment as artistic director thus far?

"I think kids are terrific, and they're so accepting and so uninhibited about their reaction. I love the kid's reaction when they see something on stage that just blows their mind. We had one kid in Peter Pan ... where he flies out into the audience and one kid screamed 'it's in 3D!' That's the kind of stuff I live for."

What's the most challenging part of your job?

"The most challenging part of my job is to create a balanced season of plays that will attract a variety of people in our community. Obviously you can't please everybody, but to find enough plays that are interesting and are varied that will touch different elements of our community so they all feel included in our productions."

What do you like most about Halifax?

"The people, actually. There's a lovely, gentle quality about it. I love it when I go into a shop and a store and people say hello, even when you don't know them, or in an elevator. I love that civility that comes with living here. It's very welcoming and it's very refreshing."

ALY THOMSON

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Hands off the economy

Letters & Tweets

HALIFAX. The Atlantica Party is firmly against the new Darrell Dexter boondoggle initiative, the jobsHere program, that was announced this week.

Nova Scotia is poor, in debt and has a massively over-sized inefficient government. Economic growth consistently ranks at or near the worst in the country with no change in sight, according to the Conference Board of Canada. It is all around us: Bell Aliant is cutting managers, Keith's is moving jobs away, and Larsen and Groupe Savoie are laying off workers.

The Atlantica Party understands why this is happening. It is hard to make money here.

Nova Scotia is a very high cost environment; high sales tax, high income tax, over-regulation, morbidly obese government, and worst of all a government mind-set allowing direct intervention in the economy.

So what is government's response with jobsHere? More spending, more intervention, more regulation and more government paid for ultimately by higher taxes.

Let's be clear. Government can't create jobs. All jobsHere does is move money from the left pocket to the right pocket with a cut along the way for government.

The Atlantica Party calls for an immediate about-face on so-called "development." Take all monies earmarked for "development" and use them to lower taxes across the board for all individuals and all companies.

End government interference in the economy. Deregulate.

JONATHAN DEAN
ATLANTICA PARTY LEADER

Darrell Dexter



Is it worth going south for holiday shopping?

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Metro Minute at Daddies Telethon

Joel Plaskett will parade his Maritime pride at this year's annual Christmas Daddies Telethon on Sunday.

The artist is performing at the 47th fundraiser put on by CTV Atlantic that provides toys, clothing and food to less fortunate children and their families.

CTV's Steve Murphy and Starr Dobson will host the event that raised more than $857,000 in 2009.

It will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on CTV Atlantic and then from 2 to 6 p.m. on A.

More than 17,000 children from around the region received assistance as a result of the telethon last year, according to a CTV release.

METRO HALIFAX

Three days to play

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE PROVINCE'S DECISION TO BAN TANNING BEDS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 19.



Courtney Lund
HALIFAX
I don't think it's a good idea. A lot of places are 18 anyway, what's one more year? When I go down south I have to pre-tan otherwise it's harsher on my skin.



Erin Chambers
HALIFAX
I agree because there are risks that come with tanning, like skin cancer and I think that a lot of teenagers who tan aren't mature enough to understand that.

Indies worth watching

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Jim Sutrgess

Heartless
Jim Sturgess stars as a melancholy photographer (who is marred by a heart-shaped birthmark, hence the title) who must navigate through a darkly shot London, which is being ravaged by demons.

Undertow
Being billed as a gay ghost story, this acclaimed film (and Peru's official Oscar selection) follows Miguel, a married soon-to-be father and fisherman who is having a secret love affair with another man. His lover accidentally dies and comes back to haunt Miguel who is then forced to openly deal with who he is.

Bhutto
This documentary, which has been making rounds at festivals around the world, takes a close look at one of the most captivating characters of our time: the assassinated Benazir Bhutto, the first woman to govern a Muslim nation. Elected after her father's death, she fought against political corruption and radical Islam.

DOROTHY ROBINSON AND MARIE-FRANCE PEREL

Sure, there's some Oscar bait hitting the screens this time of year, but there are also sequels, remakes, adaptations and recycled material
We take a look at which ones might actually have a chance

More deja vu at the movies



The Tourist (Dec. 10)
The original French film, Anthony Zimmer, was critically acclaimed but flopped at the box office. Then again, it didn't star Angelina Jolie. Or Johnny Depp. Or Angelina Jolie and Johnny Depp.



TRON: Legacy (Dec. 17)
"There are no guarantees about TRON. It's a sequel based on a cult film," says film critic Dave White of Movies.com. "They're anticipating a huge audience who never heard of the original — and Daft Punk fans."



Yogi Bear (Dec. 17)
"Yogi Bear is essentially in the Alvin and the Chipmunks' spot," says Brandon Gray, publisher of BoxOfficeMojo.com. "It would be surprising if they could repeat that success. I don't think Yogi Bear is as popular a property as the Chipmunks."



Gulliver's Travels (Dec. 22)
"Jack Black has a mixed track record. Gulliver's Travels seems to want to be the new Night at the Museum, but it'll probably be closer to Bedtime Stories, which was the last movie that tried to be the next Night at the Museum," says Gray.



Little Fockers (Dec. 22)
This seems a little out of left field. "The sequel wasn't as highly regarded as the first. That, combined with the amount of time that has passed, might mean that this is where the franchise hits the wall," says Gray.



True Grit (Dec. 25)
It doesn't necessarily matter. Coen brothers fans are deterred by nothing, and Matt Damon and Josh Brolin will bring the rest. Wait, TRON star Jeff Bridges is in this one, too? Merry Christmas to all.

2 scene

Oscar race



This week, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced its short list for documentary features. Here are some you can still see in theaters or check out on DVD:

- Exit Through the Gift Shop
- Gasland
- Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould
- Inside Job
- The Lottery
- Restrepo
- Waiting for 'Superman'

METRO



Spokeswoman says Billy Joel is recovering from double hip-replacement surgery, doing well.



DRUGS PLAY STARRING ROLE IN THE MOVIES



We've all heard those disclaimers at the end of pharmaceutical commercials: "May be harmful to humans if swallowed the most common side effects are temporary eyelid droop nausea decreased sweating avoid contact with skin." Usually they sound like one long breathless sentence that seems scarier than the disease the drugs are meant to prevent.

A new film, Love and Other Drugs, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Anne Hathaway as a pharmaceutical salesman and the girl he loves respectively, forgoes the disclaimer. In what almost seems like a 90-minute ad for Viagra, it appears that the drug's — Vitamin V, Jake calls it — only side effect is that it works too well. It is the rare movie that uses a real brand name drug as a plot device.

Even though the odd movie like Prozac Nation dares to name names, often filmmakers use fictitious drugs to advance their stories (and avoid lawsuits from the notoriously litigious Big Pharma). But even in fantasy side effects abound.

Brain Candy, the 1996 Kids in the Hall comedy, created a cure for depression called GLeeMONEX that "makes you feel like it's 72°F in your head all the time." Unfortunately the pill's patients also turn into comatose zombies.

David Cronenberg devised Ephemerol, a tranquilizer used as a morning sickness remedy for his film Scanners. Side effects? Telekinetic and telepathic abilities.

Later, in Naked Lunch, Cronenberg featured the more recreational drug Bug Powder, a yellow dust formally used by exterminators, informally by people looking to find a "literary high."

In Repo! The Genetic Opera, Paris Hilton's character Amber Sweet was addicted to a blue, glowing opiate extracted from dead bodies called Zydrate.

An alternative cinematic painkiller is Novril, the pills that kept James Caan sedated in Misery.

SUBMITTED



▶ Anne Hathaway and Jake Gyllenhaal in Love and Other Drugs

Filmmakers don't just fictionalize pharmaceuticals, however. Plenty of recreational drugs get the Hollywood treatment. Remember Space Coke from Cheech and Chong's Next Movie? One snort was enough to send both Cheech and Chong literally into outer space.

A Clockwork Orange was chock-a-block with fake drugs; everything from Drencrom to the synthetic mescaline Synthemesc to Vellocet, which produced ultra-violent tendencies and sudden outbursts of Singing in the Rain.

"STRONGLY WRITTEN, SMARTLY DIRECTED AND FORCEFULLY ACTED.
One of the finest performances of Naomi Watts' career."
–Kenneth Turan, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"...a terrifically entertaining movie."
–A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Contains the intensity and suspense of 'The Bourne Identity.'"
–Anthony Breznican, USA TODAY

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Brody sues makers of thriller for salary

Adrien Brody says he was reluctantly forced to sue the makers of a thriller film because they failed to pay his full salary.

U.S. District Judge Dale S. Fischer on Monday blocked the sale or use of Brody's likeness in Giallo until the Oscar winner's remaining salary is paid.

The judge noted in her ruling that the actor was likely to prevail in his $2 million lawsuit against the filmmakers.

"At no point did I ever wish to be involved in a legal dispute, but after over a year of attempting to resolve this matter I was left with no other alternative," Brody said in a statement to the Associated Press.

The actor sued Hannibal Pictures and U.K.-based Giallo Productions Ltd. in October, shortly before Giallo went on sale in the U.S.

In a sworn declaration, Brody claimed the filmmakers lied to him about the movie's financing and how much its Italian distribution rights were worth.

SUBMITTED



▶ Adrien Brody

The picture was shot in 2008 in Turin, Italy, and Brody is featured prominently on the DVD's cover.

Brody said he was grateful for the ruling. "I am greatly appreciative of the court's ruling which protects me, and shows support for all artists who have been manipulated and taken advantage of by unscrupulous employers," his statement said.

According to the lawsuit, he agreed to defer some of his salary payments for Giallo after its producers informed him the film was having financial problems.

As a concession, Brody was given the ability to withhold his likeness from the movie unless he was fully paid, and he is still owed $640,000, according to the suit.

His attorney, Evan Spiegel, said in a statement that the filmmakers "attempted to prey on Mr. Brody's professionalism and generosity." Spiegel said Brody agreed to defer his salary so that fellow actors and the film's crew could be paid.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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Huston plays the villian

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Actor Danny Huston has been having a lot of fun playing bad guys lately, and his latest, the genre-bending martial arts-meets-Old West the Warrior's Way, has him sinking his teeth into one of his baddest. Huston sat down with Metro to chat about ninjas in the Old West and getting back to directing.

You seem to be enjoying yourself playing bad guys.
I enjoyed myself on this. The highlight for me really was the sword action sequence with Kate (Bosworth), which was shot over about four days. That was just, from a choreography point of view, very exciting, physically demanding and a lot of fun to do.

Villains seem to be the meatier roles in big movies.
I would go along with that, but also our hero is complex in this story. It has a wonderful sort of zen balance to it, this film, which I suppose is indicative as to where it comes from.

The hero, in a way, has renounced violence. Our heroine needs violence to conquer her demons.

But the violence in this film, for me personally, it's so exquisite, so beautiful to look at, that it loses its violent impact. Unlike another film I did called the Proposition that was written by Nick Cave, which was very violent — a few people are killed in it.

But this is on another level. It's a ballet. It's Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon. It has a beauty to it, which allows it to be quite accessible and ultimately not about violence but about love.

Martial arts in the Old West is an interesting mix.
I didn't know quite how the ninjas, all of that was going to work. It at times confused me, to be quite honest. But it's almost like an opera.

There's a silence that Kurosawa and Ford shared, in your protagonist not necessarily having to express or emote his emotions, but for them to be contained.

And Sergio Leone did the same thing, and I think our lead in this picture, our warrior, is extremely good at stillness and at being able to convey emotion without having to act it.

Who would win in a fight, you or Kate?
Kate's pretty damn good. She's very athletic, she's quite a crafty little swordsman.

I also felt a little brutish from time to time because I am so much bigger.

If I landed a punch or hit her with one of those blades, which are big, with my weight behind it I could really hurt her. But if she started fighting with me, I think I would just lay down and let her do whatever she wished.

Will you be returning to directing soon?
I'm developing a film called Day of the Dead, which is based on a novel by a guy named Kent Harrington.
I've been optioning this book for 10 or 15 years. It's become a bad, costly habit.

So I've got to get this thing made, and I'm looking to start production on it hopefully next year. I'm itching to get back in the saddle and direct again.

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Burlesque (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-1:30-4:10-4:25-7:10-7:25-9:55-10:10

Due Date (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:15-8:40

Faster (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:25-9:10

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:30-1-2-2:30-4-4:30-6:15-6:40-7:30-7:50-9:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Wed 12:30-1-2-2:30-4-4:30-6:15-7:30-7:50-9:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 12:30-1-2-2:30-4-4:30-6:15-6:40-7:30-7:50-9:20-9:45

Love & Other Drugs (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:50-3:15-6:40-9:20 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 12:50-3:15-9:20

Megamind 3D (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:20-8:50

Morning Glory (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:25-9

The Next Three Days (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:15-10

Red (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:35-3:30-6:15-9:05

Tangled (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes Fri-Thu 1-3:30-7:20-9:50

Tangled 3D (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:20

Unstoppable (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:50-10:05

IMAX
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 1:30-7:10 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:55-7:10 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:30-7:10

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Fair Game (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7-9:30 Mon 7-9:30 Tue 4:30-7-9:30 Wed-Thu 7-9:30

PARK LANE
5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860

Burlesque (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:10-11:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:10 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 3:30-6:30-9:10 No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 3:30-9:10

Due Date (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:30-3:50-7:20-9:50-11:55 Stadium Seating Sun 1:30-3:50-7:20-9:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-7:20-9:50

Faster (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-4-7:10-9:40-11:45 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-4-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:10-9:40

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 12:20-1:10-3:20-4:10-6:20-7:30-9:20-11 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat 12:20-3:20-6:20-7:30-9:20-11 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 12:20-1:10-3:20-4:10-6:20-7:30-9:20 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:20-3:55-6:20-7:30-9:20

Love & Other Drugs (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1-3:40-7-9:30-11:50 Stadium Seating Sun 1-3:40-7-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-7-9:30

The Metropolitan Opera: Boris Godunov Encore (STC) Stadium Seating Sat 1

Tangled (G) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:40-3:10-6:45-9-11:20 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 12:40-3:10-6:45-9 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:45-9

Unstoppable (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:50-3:15-6:40-9:15-11:30 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-3:15-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:40-9:15

LOWER SACKVILLE

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Burlesque (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:40

Due Date (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:30

Faster (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:15-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:40-4:15-7:15-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:15-9:25

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:35 Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:35 Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:35

Love & Other Drugs (14) Stereo Fri 6:50-9:20 Stereo Sat-Sun 12:45-3:40-6:50-9:20 Stereo Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20

Megamind (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50-6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50

Tangled (G) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:45-9 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9

Unstoppable (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-7:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10

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Burlesque (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:10-3:35-6:40-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 12:30-3:35-6:40-9:35

Due Date (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-4-7:30-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:30-10:05

Faster (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-4:20-7:35-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:40-4-7:35-10:10

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-11:55-12:20-2:45-3:15-3:45-6:20-6:50-7:20-9:45-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Tue 12-12:45-2-3:20-4-6:20-6:50-7:20-9:45-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Wed 12-12:45-2-4-6:20-6:50-7:20-9:45-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 12-12:45-2-3:20-4-6:20-6:50-7:20-9:45-10:15

Love & Other Drugs (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:30-3:25-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Tue 12:15-3:25-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 3:25-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:15-3:25-6:30-9:30

Megamind 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:35-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:25-3:30-6:35-9:20

The Metropolitan Opera: Boris Godunov Encore (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1

Morning Glory (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:35-4:05-7:10-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 7:10-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 12:35-4:05-7:10-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:20-3:55-7:10-10

The Next Three Days (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:05-3:05-6:15-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:05-3:15-6:15-9:25

Tangled 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:55-4:15-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 12:35-3:40-7-9:55

Unstoppable (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:50-3:55-7:05-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:10-3:45-7:05-9:50

TRURO

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Burlesque (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 6:35-9:15 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 3:05-6:35-9:15 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 6:35-9:15

Due Date (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:20-6:45-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9:30

Faster (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:15-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:20

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:25 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3-6:30-9:25 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:25

Love & Other Drugs (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:05 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:30-6:40-9:05 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:05

Megamind (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:10-6:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:55

Tangled (G) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 3:25-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10

Unstoppable (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 9

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Burlesque (PG) No Passes Fri 6:45-9:20 No Passes Sat 3:05-6:45-9:20 No Passes Sun 3:05-6-8:35 No Passes Mon-Thu 6-8:35

Faster (14) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat 3:30-7:15-9:45 Sun 3:30-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 6:30-9

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) No Passes Fri 6:30-9:40 No Passes Sat 2:30-6:30-9:40 No Passes Sun 2:30-5:45-8:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:45-8:55

Love & Other Drugs (14) No Passes Fri 7-9:35 No Passes Sat 3:20-7-9:35 No Passes Sun 3:20-6:15-8:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:15-8:50

Megamind (G) Sat-Sun 3

Morning Glory (PG) Fri-Sat 7:05-9:25 Sun-Thu 6:20-8:40

The Next Three Days (PG) Fri 6:35-9:30 Sat 2:50-6:35-9:30 Sun 2:50-5:50-8:45 Mon-Wed 5:50-8:45 Thu 9:10

Tangled (G) No Passes Fri 6:50-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 3:15-6:50-9:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:15



It's good to be Green

Cee-Lo finds his stride as a solo-artist with The Lady Killer Had labels' blessing on viral hit

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CHRIS YOUNG



▶ Singer Cee Lo Green poses for a photo in a hotel as he promotes his new album The Lady Killer in Toronto on Monday November 22, 2010.

CAM LINDSAY
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

You always hear about artistic differences between artists and record labels, but if Cee-Lo Green knows anything, if you have the right song a label will back anything. He should know, he's the guy who presented Elektra with a song called F— You. According to him, they didn't even bat an eyelash.

"I've been giving my label a lot of credit," he says from the penthouse of a posh boutique hotel in Toronto. "There was just a unanimous 'yes' about this record, all throughout the building as soon as they heard it. With a title like that you can safely assume where it wouldn't work as opposed to where it would, but they never gave up on this record."

Of course, a compromise was made in order to achieve this success. His label felt the song's title and chorus would need to be cleaned up for mass consumption. But Cee-Lo was more than willing to co-operate.

"Initially we did all of these alternative versions like Forget You, Eff You, I Could Have Loved You, Bump You, so we were prepared," he explains. "My credibility and integrity are in tact," he says. "There is a younger, adolescent audience that we would like to have as much of our material accessible to. But there's still the original, explicit version for adults."

"It's simply carrying on ... There was no extended agenda, there's just more music in me. This particular creative direction I had yet to showcase, this more sensitive, sexual, romantic side. And I thought it was the right thing to do."
CEE-LO GREEN

This treaty between artist and label has made Cee-Lo one of the most ubiquitous artists of 2010. Having previously tasted success both as an MC with Southern hip-hop crew Goodie Mob and a singer in the Danger Mouse collaboration Gnarls Barkley, The Lady Killer, his first new solo album in almost seven years, finds the booming crooner at his most accessible. Cee-Lo says returning to his solo work happened naturally.

"It's simply carrying on," he says. "There was no extended agenda, there's just more music in me. This particular creative direction I had yet to showcase, this more sensitive, sexual, romantic side. And I thought it was the right thing to do."

You know you've got a massive hit when...

How popular is Cee-Lo's F— You, exactly?

▶ Well, just recently Gwyenth Paltrow of all people sang the song on Glee, which in turn made it a top five hit. Cee-Lo has given it his seal of approval. "I thought it was cool and they asked so soon, which gave confirmation of what the song was becoming," he says. "Gwyneth did a great job. The song doesn't belong to me anymore, this is everyone's song."

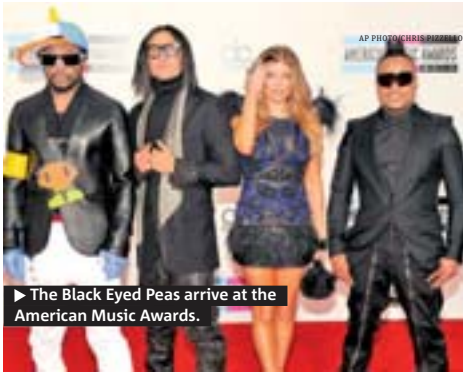


Sound Check

ALAN CROSS
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



WILL HOLIDAY ALBUM SALES BE SAVED KANYE/PEAS?



▶ The Black Eyed Peas arrive at the American Music Awards.

For people whose livelihoods depend on selling CDs, this Black Friday comes in a bleak year. Sales are down at least 11 per cent from last year and even digital music sales have reached some kind of ugly plateau.

The fourth quarter of 2010 has been almost devoid of the big-name releases and breakout hits that can draw millions into record stores in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Sure, there have been a couple—Taylor Swift's Speak Now is the only certified smash having sold a million copies in its first week—but there's been little else to celebrate. Who might come to the rescue?

Certainly not rock records because there's been a dearth of those. The ones we've seen—Kings of Leon, Linkin Park and Weezer, to name a few—have failed to deliver monster sales. So it's up to pop, hip-hop and R&B to close the sales gap.

Kanye West should have an excellent week thanks to the reviews he's getting for My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy, a CD that received an almost unheard-of 10/10 from the ever snarky Pitchfork. Expect it to be a healthy No. 1 debut when the numbers come out next Wednesday.

It's back to the Justin Bieber well again for My Worlds (Acoustic), out today. It's essentially a re-recording of My World 2.0 and should do well after the Biebster's showing on the American Music Awards last weekend.

Tuesday, the Black Eyed Peas issue The Beginning, the follow-up to stupidly successful The E.N.D., the same day as new albums from Flo Rida and Soulja Boy hit shelves. That should provide an interesting three-way race.

December 7 is also noteworthy with the release of No Mercy from T.I., who is again serving time in prison. That kind of street cred usually translates into sales.

The biggest wildcard of the season will come December 14 with the release of Michael, the posthumous Michael Jackson album.

Or is it? Members of the Jackson family have openly questioned whether that's all Michael's voice on the album or just samples of the real thing cleverly blended with sound-alikes.

Maybe 2011 will be better. At least rock fans will have lots to choose from in January and February.





7th heaven

DARTH VADER

CULTURE

Looks like the force wasn't with the owner of a Darth Vader costume this week. An original Star Wars costume, believed to have been made for The Empire Strikes Back, failed to sell at Christie's Auction House. The suit is estimated to be worth around $250,000 to $365,000 US — but the auction was stopped when less then that amount was offered as a final bid, reported the Associated Press.

LENNART PREISS/ THE ASSSOCIATED PRESS/ FILE PHOTO



MUSIC VIDEOS

CULTURE

Thought the music video was dead? Think again.

Looks like the CRTC is all about keeping the genre alive, and has even denied a MuchMusic request to cut the amount of videos it plays from 50 per cent to 25 per cent in order to air more lifestyle programming. Wait, MuchMusic still plays music videos?

KNIGHT AND DAY

MOVIES

Cameron Diaz and Tom Cruise in Knight and Day



hit the small screen on Wednesday when it gets its DVD and Blu-ray release.

The high-speed film features Cruise as a guy on the run who uses Diaz for protection.

SNOOKI

CELEBRITY

If you thought Snooki was nuts after watching Jersey Shore, you may have some ammo for your argument.

Snooki is making her commercial debut in a Wonderful Pistachios' Get Snackin ad.

Other spots include Charlie Brown and Wee-Man from Jackass. See them at getsnackin.com.

CANADA READS

BOOKS

CBC Radio announced who will be taking part in this year's Canada Reads panel, including Corner Gas' Lorne Cardinal, decorator Debbie Travie and Tegan and Sara's Sara Quin.

The books being debated are Unless by Carol Shields and The Best Laid Plans by Terry Fallis. Debates start this February.

DAVID LETTERMAN

TELEVISION

Looks like the mayor of Waskada, Man., has reason to be really happy or very, very upset.

It turns out Mary Gary Williams looks a lot like late night talk show host David Letterman, who pointed out the similarities during a broadcast last week.

JENNIFER GREY

TELEVISION

Well, it looks like the line still stands: Nobody puts Baby in the corner.

When push came to shove, the Dirty Dancing actress toe-tapped her way to the Dancing with the Stars crown this week.

The finale of Dancing with the Stars also scored big for ABC.

The conclusion to the series' 11th season scored the biggest audience since 2007, the network said Wednesday in a press release.



Mix of Six

MAMMA MIA!

The hit musical

This hit musical is touring North America and stopping in Halifax for five shows over three days. Tickets range in price from $65.50 to $79.50. Complete details are available through ticketatlantic.com.

X-MAS

Rita McNeil's Spirit of Christmas

If this Cape Breton singer can't get you into the holiday spirit, no one can. All of your holiday favourites will be sung with special guest Frank Mills also taking to the stage. Tickets are $63 and available through the Dalhousie Arts Centre box office.

OZ

The Wizard of Oz

Neptune Theatre is following the yellow brick road for its holiday blowout this year with the 1939 musical version of this popular story for all ages. For tickets and show times, visit neptunetheatre.com.

TREE LIGHTING

Christmas spirit

The Festival of Lights will take place on Sunday at the Wainwright Hotel at Heritage Park. It begins at 5:30 p.m. and tickets are $79.95 per person.

SANTA

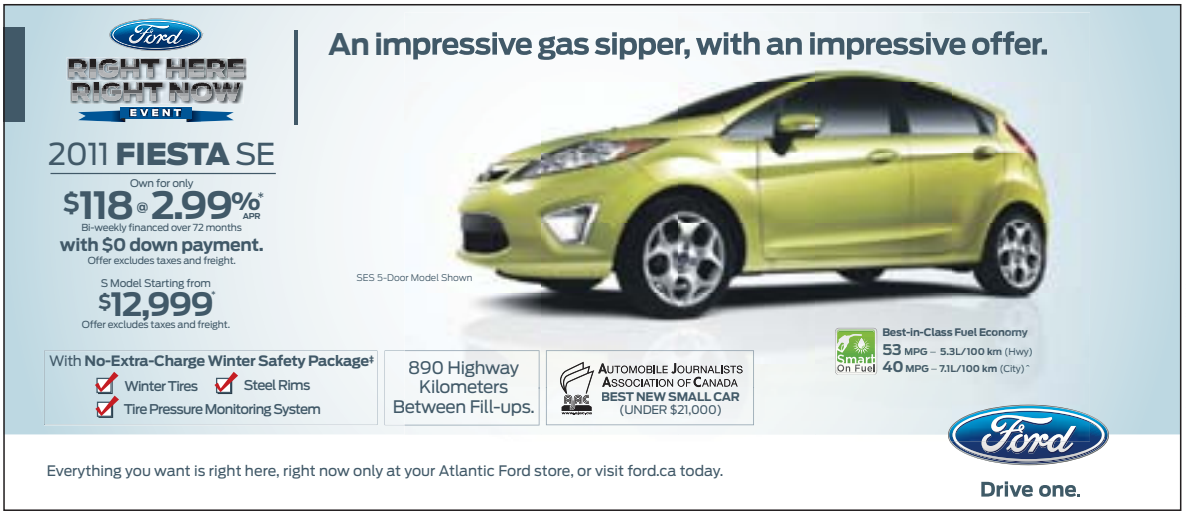
Spyfield Santa Claus Parade

Atlantic Canada's longest running Christmas parade is taking to the streets of Spryfield again, with floats and a visit from Santa. A community party at Lions Rink will conclude the parade with hot chocolate and hot dogs.

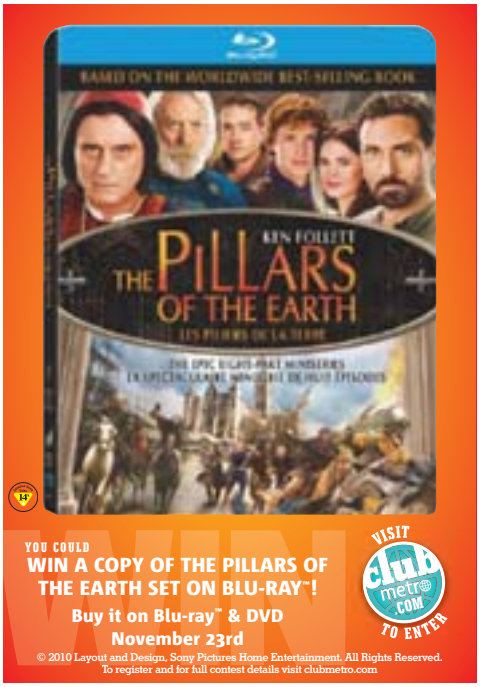
Theatre

Fall in Paris

Eastern Front Theatre is launching its 18th season with this play about three people, including two lovebirds, vacationing in Paris and facing several big decisions, including a relationship deal breaker. Tickets are $30 for adults. ticketatlantic.com.



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From State Attorney to IRA gunrunner

Titus Welliver: A Tuesday mainstay on Sons of Anarchy and the Good Wife

Titus Welliver knows how to mix it up. On CBS' legal drama The Good Wife, he stirs the pot in his recurring role as State Attorney Glenn Childs, a sleek political beast now waging an election battle against prior officeholder Peter Florrick (Christopher Noth) while regularly butting heads with Peter's attorney-wife (series star Julianna Margulies).

That's not all.

Appearing opposite himself in the same time slot (Tuesdays at 10 p.m. EST), Welliver this season has raised Cain on FX's motorcycle-gang actioner Sons of Anarchy. He plays Jimmy O'Phelan, a cold-blooded Irish Republican Army gunrunner who will stoop to anything, including child abduction, to get the job done.

Last spring, in the final episodes of ABC's Lost, Welliver clashed with his twin brother as The Man in Black, bringing human form to the mysterious force - aka The Smoke Monster - that had propelled the show's mythology since its earliest days. (He was unprepared for the reaction by Lost fans:

The day after his first episode aired, he dropped by his neighbourhood Starbucks "and several people looked like they might expire from excitement," he marvels.)

Now, he speaks hopefully of making an appearance in Luck, HBO's upcoming drama from Milch, whom Welliver calls "a father figure to me." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


▶ Titus Welliver is shown in a scene from Sons of Anarchy.

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1944 Woodlawn Terrace: *'Winter Wonderland'*. **Zephyr Rug and Home's** Interior Decorator and Consultant, **Tiffany Foran**, puts a new spin on the holidays as her winter wonderland takes you on a magical journey, presenting three differently designed rooms to discover. Festival of Colour, A Glamorous Affair, and Enchanted Glow are each inspired by this lovely home.


5735 Inglis Street: '*Edwardian Elegance*'. This beautiful home exemplifies the simple, clean lines of the Edwardian era that replaced the ornate Victorian style. A century home with all the beauty, charm and grandeur one can imagine, Designer **Tracy Cameron** of **Opal Interiors**, will give it even more elegance with her gorgeous Christmas décor.


6059 Oakland Road: *'The Magic of Christmas'*. With a twist on the traditional, this home creates the perfect backdrop for an enchanting experience for people of all ages. **Angie Brown**, Owner of **Angie's Gifts and Holiday Crafts** takes us on a tour through the magic of Christmas, from elves to gingerbread men, all with a taste of elegance. Enjoy this feast for the eyes, brought to you from Angie's own holiday workshop in Glen Haven.

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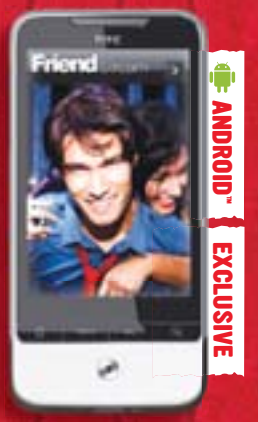
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A-Rod, Diaz are on again, off again

Couple breaking up all the time Rodriguez likes his single life status

Despite reports of a split earlier this month, Alex Rodriguez and Cameron Diaz were spotted getting very cozy at a private L.A. club this week before heading to Miami together, according to Us Weekly.

"Cameron was holding his hand and nuzzling him," a source says. "They break up and get back together all the time."

But getting Diaz to see him again reportedly wasn't easy.

"He cut things off from her and she was really hurt," a source tells Hollywood Life. "She wasn't looking to get married or anything, but Alex has a wandering eye and wanted to see other people. But, he missed her. Cameron is really a lot of fun and Alex always had a good time with her." METRO



A-Rod has eyes for others



Christina Aguilera

Chistina gets a new boyfriend?

Christina Aguilera was spotted holding hands with Matthew Rutler, her rumored new love interest, according to Us Weekly.

Aguilera met Rutler on the set of her film "Burlesque," on which he worked as a set assistant.

"They've been on a few dates," a source says of Rutler and the recently separated singer, who are said to be taking things slow.

"She's not looking to jump into a relationship right now." METRO



Looking for another baby

Halle Berry is reportedly eager to give daughter Nahla a little sibling, and since time is a factor, she's said to be putting pressure on boyfriend Olivier Martinez, according to the Daily Mail.

"I'd love more children," according to the newspaper.

"I'm 44, so who knows how much longer I can wait?"

Berry officially split from Nahla's father, Gabriel Aubry, in April. METRO

Talking points

Longoria takes some down time

WE CAN THINK OF A FEW CELEBS WE'D LIKE TO TAKE SOME PERMANENT DOWN TIME While estranged husband Tony Parker spent the holiday in Arizona, Eva Longoria celebrated Thanksgiving in Los Angeles with friends and family, according to Hollyscoop.

With the divorce occupying her time, Longoria let others take care of cooking the big meal, sources say. By her own admission, that can't have been easy.

"My worst habit in the kitchen is not allowing anybody to help me," Longoria told Red Book last month. "I like to cook by myself. Tony calls me 'the crazy woman' at Thanksgiving." METRO

Lady Gaga invests in a restaurant

NO WORD IF THEY'LL BE SERVING THAT MEAT DRESS Lady Gaga can add restaurant owner to her list of careers, as the singer recently invested in an Italian restaurant on Manhattan's Upper West Side, Vince & Eddie's, that's a favourite of her and her family, according to Page Six.

"When she's in town, she likes to come here with her friends, because it's very homey and private," Gaga's mother tells W magazine. It's unclear what involvement, if any, the singer will have with the running of the restaurant. METRO



Celebrity tweets



Kathy Griffin [@kathygriffin] Oh Good God! Mrs Kathy is at a young person's club! The music is too boom boom!!



Elizabeth Banks [@Elizabeth-Banks] Getting excited for my TSA pat down later today! Good times ahead!



Carrie Fisher [@CarrieFFisher] I don't question reality I do my best to avoid it- I question reality T.V.



Joel McHale [@joelmchale] When asked if you're carrying any concealed weapons, softly murmur, "Just a broken heart." METRO

More than dessert

Blue cheese and less sugar give this cheesecake real presence at the end of your meal

LARRY CROWE/ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ This cheesecake is exceptionally rich. Serve it in small slivers.

The goal — liberate cheesecake from the dessert course. And it was easier than we thought.

While rich, creamy cheesecake is a fine way to end the meal, we didn't think it had to be sweet to do so.

We wanted a savoury cheesecake, one that could finish the meal as a cheese course. And so we cut the sugar and substituted blue cheese for part of the cream cheese.

And since blue cheese pairs so nicely with fruit, we added a topping of pears poached in red wine and balsamic vinegar.

Blue Cheese Cheesecake with Cabernet Caramelized Pears

Ingredients:

Crust
- 250 ml (1 cup) walnuts
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) sugar
- 250 ml (1 cup) all-purpose flour
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ground black pepper
- 90 ml (6 tbsp) butter, melted

Filling
- 2 pkgs (each 250 g/8 oz) cream cheese, room temperature
- 250 g (8 oz) strong blue cheese, such as roquefort
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) all-purpose flour
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) sugar
- 3 eggs

Pears
- 4 fresh, firm pears such as Bosc
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) Cabernet Sauvignon
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) balsamic vinegar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- Pinch salt

Preparation:

1. Start to finish: 6 hours (45 minutes active) Heat oven to 180 C (350 F).

2. In a food processor, pulse together walnuts, sugar, flour, salt and black pepper until walnuts are the size of small peas. Add butter and pulse until mixture is just moistened. Press mixture into bottom of a 25-cm (10-inch) springform pan. Bake for 15 minutes or until golden around the edges and fragrant. Leave the oven on.

3. While the crust bakes, mix the cake filling. In the bowl of a stand mixer, combine cream cheese, blue cheese, flour and sugar. Mix on medium-low until well combined, scraping down the sides of the bowl several times. Add eggs, one at a time, beating and scraping the bowl in between until eggs are thoroughly incorporated.

4. After crust is baked, pour filling into pan and bake for another 30 to 40 minutes or until the centre just barely jiggles when you shake the pan and the top slightly puffs. Remove from oven and set aside to cool to room temperature, about 1 hour. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours (and up to 2 days) before serving.

5. To prepare pears, peel pears, then cut each half lengthwise. Scoop out and discard core.

6. In a deep saute pan, combine wine, vinegar, sugar and salt. Bring mixture to a simmer and add pears, core side down. Allow mixture to simmer until liquid is syrupy and pears are caramelized and tender, occasionally basting pears with liquid, about 20 minutes. Set aside to cool to room temperature.

7. When ready to serve, run a knife around the edge of the springform pan to loosen cheesecake. Remove sides of pan. If desired, run a long spatula under the crust and slide the cake onto a serving plate. Top cheesecake with caramelized pears.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 life

Food in brief

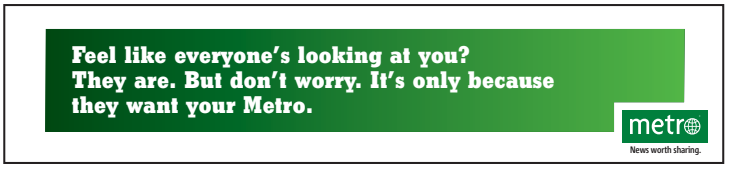


Many Canadians, particularly baby boomers aged 55 and older, women and high-income consumers, are avoiding what they perceive to be unhealthy foods at fast-food eateries, a new survey suggests.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

It doesn't take much effort to make hot cocoa that surpasses powdered

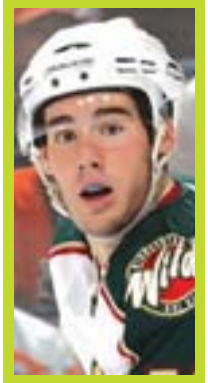






4 sports

Quoted



"I love hockey and I wish I could be playing right now, but I know I'm taking the right steps to be where I want to be. Sometimes taking steps backwards can make you take more steps forward."

LOWER SACKVILLE'S JAMES SHEPPARD, TO THE MINNESOTA STAR-TRIBUNE, ON HIS RECOVERY FROM A BROKEN KNEECAP JUST A WEEK BEFORE HE WAS SCHEDULED TO REPORT TO HIS FOURTH NHL TRAINING CAMP WITH THE MINNESOTA WILD. HE JUST GOT OFF CRUTCHES BUT IS LIKELY TO MISS THE ENTIRE SEASON.

Scan code for sports.

Moose set for road swing

The Halifax Mooseheads are taking their show on the road.

After a six-game homestand and playing an astonishing 15 of their past 18 games at the Metro Centre, the Mooseheads spend the next five games on the road, starting Friday at 7 p.m. against the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles in Sydney.

"We're going to have to win some games away from the Metro Centre and we're looking forward to the challenge," said head coach Bobby Smith.

Eight of the Mooseheads' 11 games before the holiday break are on the road, while 25 of their final 42 games overall will be played on the road.

Being at home didn't help the Mooseheads much against the Screaming Eagles anyway. They've lost both head-to-head matchups at the Metro Centre, including a 7-2 embarrassment on Oct. 22.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE



▶ Sawyer Hannay

The Mooseheads, at 9-16-1, have 19 points, one point ahead of the Screaming Eagles, 8-17-2, with a game in hand. It's a chance to gain some separation on their Maritime Division rival.

"I'm not a big believer in (there being a difference between) home and road games," said Mooseheads defenceman Sawyer Hannay. "A game's a game, and I believe we can bring it just as much on the road as at home."

The Mooseheads also visit the nationally third-ranked Saint John Sea Dogs (19-3-2) on Sunday at 3 p.m.

MATTHEW WUEST

No more junior for Delmas

Peter Delmas's agent says the former Halifax Mooseheads goaltender is not planning a return to junior hockey.

Delmas, who is still eligible to play in the QMJHL as an over-age player this season, is currently suiting up for the Central Hockey League's Wichita Thunder after being cut by the American Hockey League's Hamilton Bulldogs two weeks ago.

Lareau said Montreal Canadiens general manager Pierre Gauthier wants Delmas playing pro so he can work toward a spot with the Habs' AHL affiliate in Hamilton in 2011-12.

"Montreal told me they want him to play professionally — he did enough in junior already," Lareau said. "Next year, he's going to be in Hamilton."

Delmas, a Bedford native, has allowed eight goals on 63 shots in two appearances with the Thunder. The former Colorado Avalanche second-round draft choice allowed just four goals on 60 shots in two AHL appearances with Hamilton.

NHL starter Carey Price and minor-leaguer Robert Mayer are the only goaltenders under contract with the Canadiens next season.

MATTHEW WUEST

Herd roll with the hot hand

Rookie Terenzio lands 4th straight start ◐ Veteran Corbeil continues to sit



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

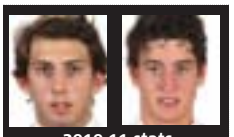
The Halifax Mooseheads are sticking with Anthony Terenzio.

The 17-year-old rookie will make his fourth consecutive start when the Halifax Mooseheads visit the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles for the first time this season, on Friday at 7 p.m.

Terenzio has a 2-1 record along with a 2.34 goals-against average and a .919 save percentage in four appearances since taking over for struggling 19-year-old Mathieu Corbeil on Nov. 12.

"His save percentage has been up over (.900) and he's played well in each game," said Mooseheads head coach Bobby Smith. "We have lots of confidence in both goalies but we decided Anthony will give us a real good chance to win."

The Mooseheads drafted Terenzio in the sixth round, 95th overall, last June from the U.S. prep school Shattuck-St. Mary's.



2010-11 stats

TERENZIO		CORBEIL	
AGE	17	AGE	19
HEIGHT	5' 8"	HEIGHT	6' 6"
GPI	14	GPI	15
MIN	688	MIN	753
W-L	3-6-0	W-L	6-8-1
GAA	3.31	GAA	3.90
Sv%	.884	Sv%	.858

For weekend Mooseheads coverage, visit Matthew Wuest's Q Files blog at www.metronews.ca/qfiles.

89 Number of career appearances by Mathieu Corbeil in a Mooseheads jersey. He is sixth in franchise history, 10 appearances behind No. 5 Pascal Leclaire.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE



▶ Anthony Terenzio is coming off a loss but has a 2-1 record in three consecutive starts.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE



▶ Peter Delmas

Rainmen go deeper as camp ramps up

The Halifax Rainmen have added depth at the guard position with the training-camp arrivals of Adris DeLeon and Tajuan Porter.

DeLeon is a familiar face for Rainmen fans. The six-foot point guard averaged 9.2 points in 10 appearances with the club last season before leaving to train with the Dominican Republic's national team.

Porter just finished his senior NCAA Division I season with the Oregon Ducks after setting the Pac 10 Conference record with 345 career three-pointers on .385 shooting.

He averaged 14.3 points per game over four seasons.

Rainmen owner Andre Levingston called DeLeon an "aggressive scorer" who can "break people down off the dribble" and described Porter as "an amazing shooter."

"We're rockin' and rollin'," Levingston said from training camp in Moncton. "Guys are competing extremely hard, as they should be. They're trying to impress the coaches and compete for jobs."

The Rainmen now have 18 at camp, with DeLeon, Porter, Damon Powell and Kavon Jones joining the 14 players who showed up for media day on Monday.

The Rainmen are practising twice a day, with two-hour sessions starting at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. The first cuts will be made after Saturday's intrasquad game, which wraps up the Moncton portion of camp.

Ten players will make the final roster.

MATTHEW WUEST

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Glavic prepares for final game

Wonky knees set to end former Huskie's football career

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Dinos QB Erik Glavic is pictured during a practice session on Thursday.

Bad knees or not, Erik Glavic wants to leave university football in a blaze of glory.

The University of Calgary quarterback gets his last shot at a Vanier Cup when the Dinos take on the hometown Laval Rouge et Or at PEPS Stadium on Saturday (TSN, 12:45 p.m.). Then he expects to hang up the spikes for good.

The Pickering, Ont., native is in his fifth and last year of eligibility and, despite two Hec Crighton trophies as the top football player in Canadian Interuniversity Sport, was never drafted by a Canadian Football League team. Retirement beckons.

"This will essentially be my last game of contact football, but I'm trying not to look at it that way," Glavic said. "I'm a pretty emotional guy, I wear my heart on my sleeve, but I try to take that emotion out of it and stay on an even keel and hopefully lead this team to a victory.

"Now, with the knee situation, even if someone was interested I don't think I'd pursue it. My knees are really not doing well. I'm hoping to be walking when I'm 40. I think it's best for me to step away from the game, even though it kills me."

Once a dynamic scrambler, Glavic rarely runs the ball any more, but coach Blake Nill says he has compensated with a better all-around game, making better reads in the pocket and letting the offensive line and star running back Steven Lumbala take care of the ground game.

He will need all his weapons as the Dinos, a solid offensive side, go up against a Laval defence that is widely recognized as the best in the country.

The Rouge et Or conceded only 6.4 points per game to opponents while going 10-0 this season and they have picked off 14 passes in their three post-season games.

Both quarterbacks go into the game hurting. Laval's Bruno Prud'homme had his bell rung by a wicked hit late in the Rouge et Or's 13-11 win over Western in the Uteck Bowl last week but is OK to play. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Schutte cracks first team



Saint Mary's Huskies defensive tackle Dan Schutte has been named a first-team all-Canadian.

The fourth-year standout was the lone member of the Huskies to crack the first team when Canadian Interuniversity Sport unveiled the rosters on Thursday. Halifax's Bradley Daye, a cornerback with the Mount Allison Mounties, also made the first team.

Huskies returner Jahmeek Murray, Atlantic University Sport's player of the year, highlighted the second team.

Also making the second team were Huskies defensive back Mark Holden, a Halifax native, and linebacker Jeff Hecht.

Terence Bay's Adrian Saturley of the Acadia Axemen also cracked the second team.

METRO

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Team of destiny?

Stars seem aligned for Alouettes in Grey Cup rematch against Riders

Everything seems aligned for the Montreal Alouettes heading into the Grey Cup game.

Montreal finished the season atop the East Division to secure a first-round playoff bye with many figuring the club would have its hands full in the conference final if it met up with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

After all, Hamilton dismantled the Alouettes 40-3 on Oct. 22 in a game that featured both teams' starting players.

So the thinking was Hamilton would dispatch the Toronto Argonauts in the semifinal, then head to Montreal full of confidence and be a real handful for the Alouettes. Well, it didn't happen as Toronto beat the Ticats 16-13 before bowing out to the Als 48-17 in last weekend's division final.

ALOUETTES | RIDERS

- **Time:** 7 p.m. Sunday
- **Channel:** TSN

That secured Montreal its eighth Grey Cup appearance since 2000. The expectation was the Alouettes would face the Calgary Stampeders, who posted a CFL-best 13-5 record to finish atop the West Division.

But again, fate seemingly intervened as the Saskatchewan Roughriders upset Calgary 20-16 in the West Division final to advance to a Grey Cup rematch with Montreal on Sunday.

So Montreal finds itself in yet another CFL title game without having to overcome its two biggest hurdles, leaving some football pundits to suggest the Alouettes are a team of destiny this year.

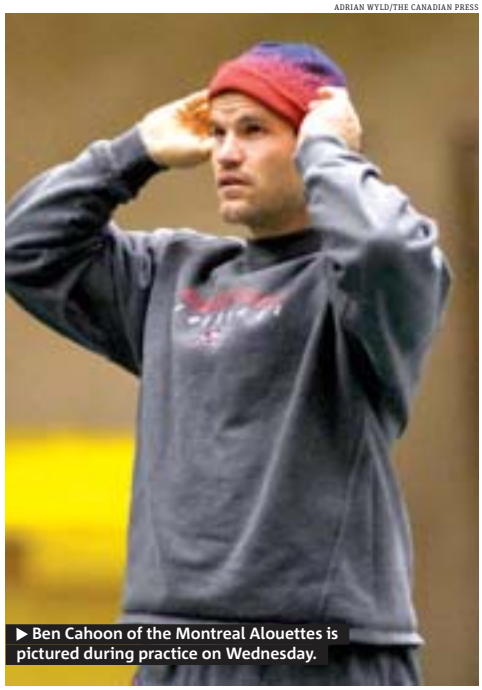
As a result, Montreal opened as a seven-point favourite over Saskatchewan, much like last year when the Alouettes were solid 9½-point picks over the Riders.

The two teams split their games this season, with Saskatchewan winning a wild 54-51 overtime decision to open the 2010 campaign. Montreal countered by winning the second meeting 30-26 five weeks later.

Anthony Calvillo outplayed Darian Durant in last year's Grey Cup game, rallying Montreal from a 20-10 deficit heading into the fourth. Calvillo finished 26-of-39 passing for 314 yards and two TDs while Durant was 17-of-29 for 201 yards and a touchdown but also two interceptions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Ben Cahoon of the Montreal Alouettes is pictured during practice on Wednesday.

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Stamps' Burris nabs outstanding player award

It took two years, but Henry Burris has his CFL outstanding player award.

The Calgary Stampeders quarterback captured the CFL's top individual honour Thursday at the league's awards banquet. He earned 32 of 60 votes from the Football Reporters of Canada and the league's eight head coaches to nip Anthony Calvillo of the Montreal Alouettes. Calvillo had claimed the trophy the last two years.

Burris wasn't the only Stampeder honoured as offensive tackle Ben Archibald was named the top lineman. Calgary linebacker Juwan Simpson was a finalist to Hamilton's Markeith Knowlton for top defensive player.

The other winners included Saskatchewan slotback Andy Fantuz (top Canadian), kick-returner Chad Owens of the Toronto Argonauts (special-teams) and B.C. Lions linebacker Solomon Elimimian (rookie).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Numbers

- The six-foot-two, 219-pound Burris played a major roll in leading Calgary to the top spot in the West Division standings.
- Burris, 35, was third in CFL passing with 4,945 yards and had a league-high 38 touchdown tosses.

Thanksgiving thriller

30	27
SAINTS	COWBOYS

Drew Brees was a young Dallas Cowboys fan cheering on Jason Garrett during his amazing comeback victory on the U.S. Thanksgiving in 1994. With Garrett and the Cowboys on the verge of another holiday stunner, Brees and the Saints snatched it away. Brees and the Saints blew a 17-point lead, but went back ahead following a quick, long drive with 1:55 left and held on for a 30-27 victory when the Cowboys' David Buehler narrowly missed a 59-yard field goal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brady's bunch of TDs lift Patriots

45	24
PATRIOTS	LIONS

Tom Brady was perfect on the field and his exit was first class.

Brady threw a season-high four touchdown passes, all in the second half, and the New England Patriots routed the Detroit Lions 45-24 on Thursday after trailing by 11 late in the second quarter.

"We showed some resiliency, coming out in the second half and playing the way we did when the crowd was into it," Brady said.

Following Brady's brief news conference, the former Michigan star jogged out of Ford Field — limping slightly up a steep ramp — hugged Robert Kraft and got into an idling limo with the team owner behind a police escort.

New England (9-2) moved a half-game ahead of the AFC East rival New York Jets — who played Cincinnati on Thursday night — for the NFL's best record, setting up a showdown at home Dec. 6.

"I don't think we're at where we need to be at," Brady said.

"But this is a tough group."

No one in the red, white and blue is tougher than Brady.

After taking a ton of shots early in the game, the three-time Super Bowl winner and two-time MVP bounced back to complete 21 of 27 passes for 341 yards with no interceptions, giving him a perfect quarterback rating of 158.3 for the second time in his career.

"He's like a surgeon," Detroit centre Dominic Raiola said.

Brady threw a go-ahead touchdown pass to Deion Branch early in the fourth quarter after connecting with him on a 79-yarder to tie it at 24.

Wes Welker's second TD reception sealed the victory with 6:42 left, putting the Patriots ahead by two TDs and making their double-digit deficit a distant memory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

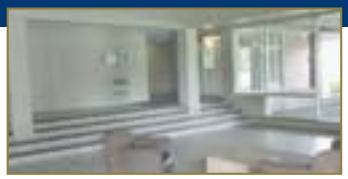
LEON HALIP/GETTY IMAGES



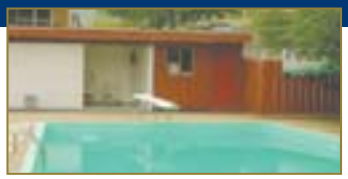
▶ Wes Welker of the Patriots carries the ball as Louis Delmas of the Lions gives chase on Thursday.

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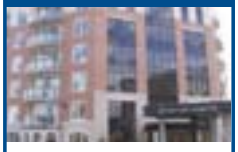
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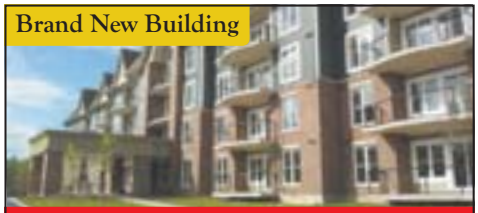
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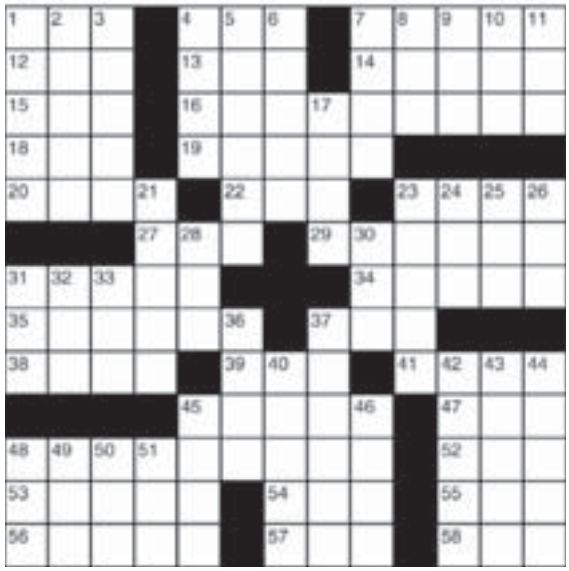
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Crossword



Across

1 "The — Daba Honeymoon"
4 Corroded
7 Treaties
12 Trail the pack
13 Rage
14 Hilo hello
15 Sailor's assent
16 Cheating
18 Director Howard
19 007's ilk
20 No purebred pooch
22 Poetic contraction
23 MacDonald's place
27 Moreover
29 Wall Street newsmaker
31 Strong adhesive
34 Mob scenes
35 Moralist's concerns
37 Feline
38 Glaswegian gal
39 Listener
41 Fervor
45 Render obscure
47 Mainlander's souvenir
48 Fleet of cars kept in reserve
52 Annoy
53 Boredom
54 Lennon's lady
55 Dead heat
56 Reach
57 Recipe meas.
58 Still, in verse

Down

1 Frighten
2 Louisiana waterway
3 Representative
4 Helps
5 Camera stand
6 Ghostly
7 Picks up the check
8 Heidi's height
9 Bill's partner
10 Still, in verse
11 Bando of baseball
17 Clause in a contract
21 Urban carriers
23 Movie director Lang
24 Past
25 On Soc. Sec., maybe
26 "— Doubtfire"
28 Big Apple letters
30 Mound stat
31 Slithery one
32 Sch. group
33 Surprise cries
36 Leak slowly
37 Sings like Bing
40 Under way
42 The 400
43 Eagle's home
44 Make comparisons
45 Vivacity, musically
46 Thick semiliquid
48 "Little Women" woman
49 Inseparable
50 Stick with a kick
51 Chic no more

▶ Yesterday's answer



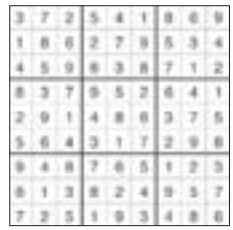
Sudoku

		9	2		6		7	
5		6	8	1		2		
	4						6	3
9			4		8		5	6
	6			2			9	
4	8		9		5			1
1	9						8	
		4		8	7	9		2
	3		6		2	5		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶



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Thanesha, it it wasn;t for you I would have no idea what true love really means. I am happy you are my wife, friend and lover. Love you always. **WARREN XOXOXO**

Happy Quarter Century Ron!! Can't wait to party tonight. Love you all the way to the moon and back. Haha. **LOVE, THE GINGER.**

Mark, Words cannot express how much I love you. You are my soul mate and I am looking forward to sharing our lives together. **M.**

Adam, I'm looking forward to solving the daily crossword with you. We'll keep it classy! **LOVE, EMMA <3**

"J-swizzle, I'm sorry I made you sign up for VGH. You know I'm not gonna have any fun without you. **LOVE YOU LONG TIME.**



Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to play@metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Do you trust your ideas? You should do, because you are head and shoulders above everyone else in your ability to imagine the future.

♉ Taurus April 21-May Your star is very much on the rise at the moment and when Venus, your ruler, changes signs early next week you'll be flavor of the month with just about everyone.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Don't let anyone try to convince you that certain targets are beyond your abilities to reach. They know it isn't true, which is why they are trying to convince you it is.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Something you are told today will ring true even though you would prefer not to believe it.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 The Sun in your fellow Fire sign of Sagittarius promises that you will get what you want no matter how many people try to stand in your way. You're a Leo. You're a winner.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 A feud that has been dragging on for some time is beginning to wear you down, so why not end it?

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If your aims and ambitions are a bit vague now is the ideal time to sit down and decide what it is you want and how you intend to get it.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Today's aspect between the Sun and your ruler Pluto will boost your confidence in some small but significant way and before you know it you will be moving in a new direction, one that's really quite exciting – and profitable too.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You have complete and utter faith in your own abilities. The idea of failure will not enter your mind at any stage today. With that kind of self-belief you can move mountains. Moving other people though might be more of a challenge.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You're in one of your "leave me alone" moods today, and if friends and co-workers have any sense they will stay out of your way for a bit.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 No matter how good your latest idea may be you still have to get out there into the marketplace and sell it to the people who matter. Email ten contacts whose backing could make you a star. Do it right now.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You are now within touching distance of a goal you have been working towards for many months, but for some reason you are suddenly scared. Why? Fear of failure is one thing, but fear of success? Get over it – it's coming. ● SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

ALVARO BARRIENTOS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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